

LONDON SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

13 FEBRUARY 1977

Tough Navy 'brain' is heading for C.I.A. job

ADMIRAL STANSFIELD TURNER, 53, is not likely to be hotly challenged in the Senate as President Carter's second nominee for the post of Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, as was Mr. Theodore Sorensen, who was forced to withdraw.

The admiral — the third officer of that rank to be a C.I.A. chief — gained a reputation as a tough minded intellectual during two years as head of the Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island, before becoming commander of the Second Fleet in the Atlantic in 1974.

He elevated the curriculum to unheard of heights, insisting that fledgling staff officers must know the history of warfare in depth back to the Greeks and Phoenicians, and study the humanities.

At present Commander of

By
STEPHEN BARBER
in Washington

N.A.T.O. forces in Southern Europe, his approach to American defence strategy matches that of Mr. Carter.

Both are determined that America's nuclear deterrent capability must be totally credible. But they are also more concerned about the trend of Russian military expansion—and the impact politically of that perception on others, including allies—than on the actual balance of super-power forces.

Control of seas

Adm. Turner's view of the Russian naval menace was set out in an article he wrote for the quarterly *Foreign Affairs*.

He argued against being hypnotised by the count of ships, aircraft and submarines and urged that planners should think instead in terms of missions. America was far more dependent

on the seas than Russia, and must seek to control the sea lanes, whereas Russia's navy is "primarily designed to deny that use to others."

"Our survival and that of our allies in war depend on the vital sea links between us, and these are ensured largely by our naval power," he wrote.

Rhodes scholar

Admiral Turner was a classmate of Mr. Carter at the Naval Academy at Annapolis. He came 25th out of the 820 cadets to graduate in 1946 when the President ran 59th. They both put in for a Rhodes Scholarship, but the Admiral won it while Mr. Carter went to submarine school instead.

Before going to Oxford, he had served in an aircraft carrier and a cruiser. At Oxford he read philosophy, politics and economics, receiving his degree in 1950.